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UNH Chosen for Exchange Program with Prestigious International Institute

By [Erika Mantz](#)
UNH News Bureau
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July 31, 2002

DURHAM, N.H. -- The University of New Hampshire and the prestigious Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle, Germany, recently entered into a two-year exchange that will benefit students as well as faculty members.

For the next two years, Max Planck will send a post doctoral fellow to teach at UNH. Beginning this fall, Peter Finke, a professor of social anthropology, will teach for one year. He will be joined by his wife, Meltem Sancak, who is also a member of the institute. Finke is German and Sancak is Turkish, and their research is concentrated in Uzbekistan, which is north of Afghanistan.

"They bring to the university a knowledge of the peoples in central Asia," says Stephen Reyna, professor of anthropology at UNH and coordinator of the exchange. "They bring an expertise we didn't have, and one that very few universities in the United States have."

Finke and Sancak will work with other departments, including women's studies and European studies, as well as speak in classes and to community groups.

The exchange will allow Reyna and Nina Glick Schiller, an associate professor of anthropology at UNH, to return to Max Planck to continue long-term research projects. Both Reyna and Schiller have appointments as permanent visiting senior research professors at the Germany institution. Schiller is doing comparative research on migration in Halle, Germany,

and Manchester. Reyna will continue his book on global warring.

"This exchange will allow researchers connected with Max Planck to learn more about America, and also advance the cosmopolitanism of UNH," says Reyna. "It will strengthen existing programs and allow us to provide an element of globalization that has been missing.

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